

951 Swan Valley Drive, Forsyth, MO 65653
417-546-5208 | ourladyoftheozarks@gmail.com
www.ourladyoftheozarks.com

Tradition + Community + Mission

Mass Schedule

Weekend Mass
Sunday | 8:30am
Weekday Masses
Wednesday | 9:00am
Friday | 9:00am

Confession

Wednesday | After Mass
Sunday | Before Mass
Other | By Appointment
Holy Hour Adoration
Wednesday | After Mass



Parish Leadership

Father J Friedel

Pastor

417-334-2928 ext 105

FrJFriedel@ollbranson.com

Father Johny M. Augusthy

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928 X 101

johnyvc@dioscgo.org

Father Dhaneesh Thomas

Associate Pastor

417-334-2928

Dhaneesh@dioscgo.org

Dcn Daniel Vaughn

Parish Administrator

Pastoral Associate

417-546-5208 or 812-204-2625

DcnDanVaughn@gmail.com

Mike Rivera

Bulletin

mikerivera@ollbranson.com

Nancy Loughner

Office Associate

Marilyn Guy

Financial Administrator

Barbara Peterson

PCCW President

Chris Gillen

Parish Pastoral Council President

Laura Cairns

Music Ministry

Buck Hartley

Grand Knight Council 7680

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ,
the Son of the living God." - Mt 16:15-16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Our Lady of the Ozarks Mission Statement

We are called to walk with Christ, serving with joy, love and mercy. We bring our talents and shortcomings, our histories, and our hopes. But most of all, we bring our shared faith and love of Jesus. We are blessed to belong to Our Lady of the Ozarks Catholic Church.

Weekly Financial Report

8/18/2026

	Last Week	Month To Date	Budget for Month
Regular Collections:		August	August
Envelopes	\$1,257.00	\$4,559.00	\$7,840.00
Plate (loose)	175.00	678.00	1,000.00
Maint. & Repair Fund	595.00	2,454.00	2,930.00
Total	\$ 2,027.00	\$ 7,691.00	\$ 11,770.00
Operating Expenses:			
Salary & Benefits	936.00	3,289.00	6,608.00
Maintenance	29.99	2,020.58	1,410.00
Telephone & Utilities		1,787.96	2,032.00
Insurance		800.00	800.00
Other Expenses	118.41	864.02	891.00
Total	\$ 1,084.40	\$ 8,761.56	\$ 11,741.00



We pray for those who are ill, those in despair, and the homebound. We ask for the heavenly intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. May she envelope them with her maternal protection.

For parishioners; for health-related issues: Mary Bloomgren, Kenny & Penny O'Connor, Kathy Strader, Debbie Davis, Gary & Sharon Hickox, Mary Little, Norma McKee, and Delores Steinmetz.

For family & friends: Sandy Schumacher's brother, Kirk and niece Lisa, Bud Townsend - Carolyn's husband, Patt Strom's niece Shannon, granddaughter Jennifer, and daughter Patricia; Carla Schmitz's brother in-law Roger, Donna Covelli's niece, Brianne Trenado, Marilyn Guy's sister, Rosemary Pawloski, Ann Forster's daughter, Susan Wright, JoAnn Roach's friend Leslie Floyd, Jackie Nieukirk's sister-in-law Diana Leonard, Pam Strunk's daughter, Crystal Harvey, Vickie Ploshay's brother Joe Ploshay, Dee Vincent, and Nancy Thomas' brother Tony.

For our homebound, including those in care facilities: Dorothy Althoff, Janice Elledge, Ann Forster, Leonard Gross, Mary Lamp, Fred & Verlene Matlage, Trini Scholefield, Joyce Stenger and Norma Harris.

Diocesan Development Fund (DDF) Update

As of August 18, our parish family has pledged \$14,280 toward our \$15,645 goal (92 1/2 %) from 45 households (88%) of our 51-household goal.

Parish Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event
Sun 8/23	8:00am	Rosary led by the PCCW
Sun 8/23	9:45 am	Sunday School of Faith in Marian Hall
Wed 8/26	9:30 am	Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour
Sun 8/30	9:40 am	Parish Feast Day Brunch, Social & Bingo
Wed 9/2	9:30 am	Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour
Wed 9/2	10:00 am	PCCW Meeting
Fri 9/4	9:35 am	First Friday After Mass Social

Check each week for updates as things do change.

Date	Mass Intention	Lectors	Gift Bear
Sun 8/23	Linda Thiros +	Marilyn/Molly	Duane & Kay Gerken
Wed 8/26	Dorothy Ratermann +	Charlene	
Fri 8/28	John Loughner +	Nancy	
Sun 8/30	Phil Harter +	Dennis / Tom	The Knights of Columbus
Wed 9/2	Theo Strom +	Kathy	
Fri 9/4	First Fridat Deceased Souls+	Kay	

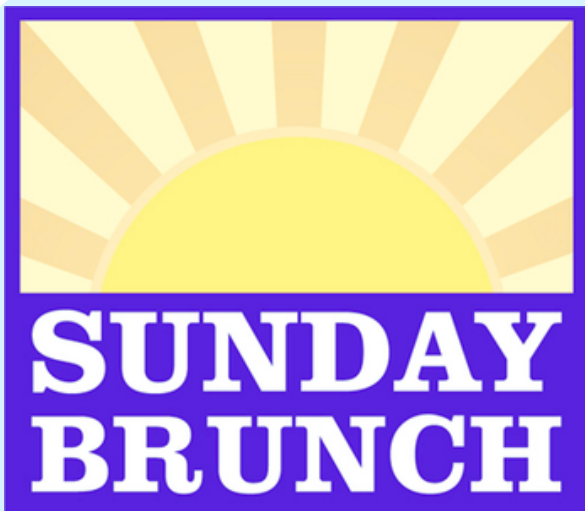


August KofC items :

- August 30th, The KofC will lead the Rosary at 8:00 am. before Mass, all parishioners are invited to come and pray the Rosary with us.



You are invited to join the PCCW in praying the Rosary at 8:00am on August 23rd led by the PCCW leadership team.



**PARISH FEAST DAY
HOLY POTLUCK BRUNCH
AUGUST 30 after Mass
FUN, FOOD, BINGO, DOOR
PRIZES**

What to bring....bring yourself, bring a friend & if you wish to bring a dish, please see food sign up in Gathering Space and to help us get a count for attendance, please sign attendance sheet...thank you.



Hey Deacon!

By Deacon Dan Vaughn

Fundamentalist or Catholic? Clearing Away the Caricature

When conversations about faith arise between Catholics and some Fundamentalist Christians, misunderstandings often surface quickly. Many Fundamentalists reject Catholicism not because they have examined the Church's true teachings and found them wanting, but because they have been presented with a distorted version, a **caricature** of what the Church believes.

A caricature, by definition, exaggerates certain features while ignoring the whole picture. In art sketches, it might make someone's nose comically large (i.e. Deacon Dan) or their chin impossibly sharp. In matters of faith, a caricature can be far more damaging, because it replaces truth with half-truths or outright errors. Some Fundamentalists are taught, for example, that Catholics "worship" Mary or believe they can "earn" salvation. These claims miss the heart of Catholic teaching entirely. The Church honors Mary as the Mother of God, but worship is due to God alone. And salvation is always a gift of grace, received through faith and lived out in love.

One of my favorite theologians is Peter Kreeft. His analysis of this topic identifies **seven major differences**, not to divide, but to clarify. These distinctions help Catholics better articulate our own faith and engage others with charity and confidence.

First, Catholics and Fundamentalists approach **biblical inspiration** differently. Fundamentalists often stress the Bible's divine authorship alone, while Catholics embrace its fully divine and fully human character, an incarnational view that mirrors Christ Himself.

Second, Fundamentalists hold to **sola scriptura**, believing Scripture alone is sufficient. Catholics treasure Scripture but also recognize **Sacred Tradition** and the teaching authority Christ gave the Church.

Third, Catholics and Fundamentalists differ in their understanding of the **Church**. For many Fundamentalists, the Church is an invisible fellowship of believers. Catholics see it as the visible and **Mystical Body of Christ**, both human and divine.

Fourth, Catholics live within a **sacramental worldview**, where God uses physical signs to communicate grace. Fundamentalists often see sacraments as merely symbolic, while Catholics see them as Christ's own instruments of salvation.

Fifth, Catholics believe Christ entrusted real **teaching authority** to the apostles and their successors. Fundamentalists emphasize individual interpretation of Scripture, which can unintentionally foster conflicting doctrines.

Sixth, Catholics hold **faith and reason together**, confident that truth cannot contradict truth. Fundamentalists often prefer simpler, literal approaches to Scripture.

Finally, Kreeft notes that Catholicism is profoundly **incarnational**. God works through Scripture, sacraments, the Church, human reason, and history. Fundamentalism tends to spiritualize or simplify these realities.

Why do misunderstandings persist? Often because people learn about Catholicism from sources outside the Church: books, sermons, or media that present a simplified or hostile version of Catholic belief. Once this false picture is accepted, it becomes the "Catholicism" they reject.

As Catholics, we are called to be patient teachers and joyful witnesses. We can correct misconceptions gently, with humility and charity, remembering that our goal is not to "win" but to invite others to see the fullness of the faith.

So, the next time someone says, "I could never be Catholic because..." listen carefully. They may be rejecting a caricature. And you may have the privilege of introducing them to the real thing.



Staying Connected with PCCW

School is back in session in many areas of the country and so is the PCCW with our first meeting scheduled for September 2nd. Today is our PCCW Sunday where we focus on an organization that provides opportunities for women to participate and make a difference in their church and community. The PCCW is also a great place to make and build friendships. Please join us and if I can take a phrase from The Chosen "Come and See". We meet at 10 am on Wednesday, September 2nd.

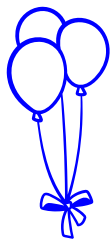
I was one among many from our Parish PCCW to attend the Eucharistic Congress in West Plains this past Saturday, however I would venture to say, I was one of the last ones to register. The enemy was doing a good job trying to keep me away from something that would bring me much closer to the Eucharist. The day started off in the most perfect way- a bus ride. Stepping on to the bus I saw so many familiar faces. I realized I knew every single person on the bus except for one. Some I knew better than others, various ages and backgrounds, but all I would consider friends, friendships made as a result of being a part of this incredible church community. So if you are looking for a place to share yourself, your gifts and talents, to build friendships, come join our PCCW. As for the Eucharistic Congress – the teachings of the day were many which I am still pondering. Bishop Rice challenged us to reclaim our Catholicism and to be bold Catholics in today's world. Am I glad I went...you bet! Until next time –stay connected.

- Barbara S. Peterson

Events in the near Future:

- Aug 30 – Feast Day "Holy Brunch". Bring a dish, PCCW will provide an egg dish and the Knights will provide ham and bacon.
- Rummage Sale Set Up – Weekend of Sept 19th. More information will be forthcoming in the bulletin. Actual sale dates are October 8,9 & 10.
- Jewelry Donations – there is a treasure chest in the Gathering Space for jewelry donations for the rummage sale.

" PCCW hosting the Seminarians and celebrating with Bishop Rice."



Diocesan Eucharistic Congress – Recap

For all of you who attended the Eucharistic Congress in West Plains on August 15, I asked that you text or email me some photos from a few comments about your experience -- a lasting impression to share. I plan to write a bulletin article from your input.





**EVERY
DROP
COUNTS**



Red Cross Blood Drive

Forsyth's Elks Lodge
Friday, September 4 from 10 am – 2 pm

12951 US-160
Forsyth, MO 65653

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE-MANSFIELD BRANCH

Schedule a Blood, Platelet or Plasma Donation |
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>

Walk-ins welcomed!

The Order of Christian Initiation Adults formerly R.C.I.A. First Session is this Tuesday, August 25 at OLL Branson



OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

A Journey of Faith

Do you have questions about the Catholic Church, the Catholic faith and Catholic way of life?

Are you wanting to know more but not sure what to do or who to ask?

Or maybe you know someone that has expressed interest in learning more about our faith. An open invitation awaits acceptance.

Our Lady of the Ozarks will again team up with our big sister parish, Our Lady of the Lake in Branson, to discover the riches of the Catholic faith. The sessions begin Tuesday, August 25. Sessions begin at 6:30 pm and go until 8:30 pm. (Fr. J is leading the first two sessions). If, this timeslot does not work with your schedule, reach out to Deacon Dan and he will work with you to develop a custom formation schedule here at Our Lady of the Ozarks. It is Fr. J's and Deacon Dan's desire to make our sessions convenient, meaningful, and fulfilling.

Donating online is easy!



Just aim your phone camera
at the QR code and follow the
link. Or go directly to -

<https://giving.myparishsoft.io/app/giving/WeShare-20001679?tab=home>





10126 E 76, Suite E
Forsyth, Mo 65653
417-336-5465

Darrel & Susan Bearden
Snapp Bearden
Funeral Home and Crematory
Ozarks Memorial Park 417-546-4757



Knights of Columbus
PRO LIFE
Forsyth Council #7680



1 & 2 Bedrooms
1-1/2 & 2 Baths
417-546-3334
for Carefree Living

shepherdofthehillsestapts.com



MR. DON'S BARBER SHOP Don Carr
173 Shadowrock Drive, Forsyth, MO and
Tue — Fri 8:00 — 5:00 and Sat 8 — 12 Wren Carr
For Appt 294-1984

Dan Guy, ENROLLED AGENT
D&M Accounting Service
417-546-5086 Highway 160, P.O. Box 808
Forsyth, Missouri 65653

Mr. Bug Killer Inc.
PROFESSIONAL
EXTERMINATING

Branson
(417) 334-0009
Forsyth
(417) 546-2009



Learn more about senior living and senior care by
calling 800-558-0653 or go to www.caring.com.



Jesus, I trust
in you.

OUR LADY OF THE OZARKS PARISH
FORSYTH



Residential • Commercial Real Estate

Duane & Kay Gerken, Brokers

Duane: 417.335.0771

Kay 417.335.0271

GerkenandAssociates.com

Office: 417.334.1892



PINEGAR CHEVROLET BUICK GMC OF BRANSON

N. Hwy 65 Branson, MO
417-231-4599

<https://www.pinegarbranson.com>

Fletch@pinegarbranson.com



Safe Environment - Report Abuse

If you suspect or have a concern regarding misconduct or abuse, use the
Report Abuse online access via the Diocesan webpage, www.dioscrg.org.

Then click on Report Abuse, and/or call the Director of Child and Youth
Protection:

William Holtmeyer, 417-866-0841



To purchase an ad, contact:

Mike Rivera mikerivera@ollbranson.com 417-527-4367